Revenue (1928) Department.

Ms SERIES.

G.O. No. 33

DATED 6. 1. 28

[Despatch Abstract.]

Settlement - Resettlement - (South Kanara district) classification of lands - alteration at - resettlement - Preliminary enquiry - Ordered.

Copy of Reference from the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement, Reference No.F.735/26-5, dated 28th October 1926:

With reference to paragraph 1 of the Board's Reference No.F.735/26-1, dated 27th January 1926 recorded in G.O.No. 329 dated 25-2-1926, the Special Settlement Officer, No.IV Party, stat that in order to determine whether any changes are required in the classification of lands at the ensuing resettlements of Malabar and South Kanara it is necessary to frame an approximate estimate of the amount of revenue involved in such changes. For this purpose he suggests that an account should be maintained from the current fasli showing (a) for South Kanara

(i) the extent of garden cultivation on lands classed as 'dry' or as 'wet' (second and third classes),

(ii) the extent of wet cultivation on lands classed as 'dry', and (iii) the extent of lands classed as 'garden' which are now actually dry and

(b) for Malabar

(i) the extent of garden or wet cultivation of lands classed as 'occupied dry' and

(ii) the extent of lands classed as 'garden' which are now actually dry.

The Collectors of Malabar and South Kanara agree that a record of the kind is necessary. Mr. Wells, however, considers that the account should also include lands which have been converted from 'single crop' to 'double crop' and lands which are classified as 'wet' but which are actually under dry cultivation.

2. During his recent tour in Malabar and South Kanara the Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement discussed the question with both the Collectors and the Special Settlement Officer. The Special Settlement Officer's suggestion is based on the assumptior that the decision of Government on the question will depend chiefly, if not solely, on the financial results which may be disclosed by the proposed inspection and tabulation. The Board is however of opinion that the question of altering the description of lands at the resettlement should be decided on broader considerations. The circumstances in which dry lands are converted into wet on the west coast are entirely different from those

elsewhere. In the east coast districts generally the increased value imparted to dry land when it is converted into wet is the result of the supply of water from a Government source of irrigation and the actual cost to the ryot of making his lands suitable for wet cultivation is in most cases negligible. On the west coast the conversion of dry land into wet is made entirely at the ryots' expense and costs Government nothing. The levy of wet assessment on such lands will, in practice, amount to taxing ryots' improvements and will be difficult to justify notwithstanding the fact that Government have reserved the power to introduce such changes as may seem proper in the classification and assessment of lands after the expiry of the current settlement of the two districts. The transfer of these lands to wet will in most cases mean increasing the assessment by 100% or more, while the increase on the best wet lands will be limited to 18 3/4%. Another serious objection is the amount of inspection involved. The Board considers that at the resettlement the assessment on dry lands converted into wet should merely be enhanced by the same percentage as is applied to the other dry lands in the tract.

3. The case of dry lands converted into 'garden' is somewhat different. It is not unreasonable to treat cocoanut, for instance as the staple crop for dry lands on the Malabar and South Kanara coasts and to assess such lands with reference to the value of such produce. In this view of the case, the levy of a garden rate on dry land converted into 'garden' cannot be urged as a taxation of improvements effected by ryots. The work involved in the inspection and reclassification of such lands will however be considerable. The Special Settlement Officer appears to think that in Malabar only 'occupied dry' lands converted into 'garden' and gardens which have gone out of bearing and are now 'occupied dry' need be inspected for the purpose of determining whether any changes are required in the classification of lands as garden'. The garden rates fixed at the settlement of the district ranged from Rs.7 to Re.1 per acre and varied according as the garden was one quarter, one-half, three-fourths or fully in bearing. If all 'occupied dry' lands converted into 'garden' are to be inspected, it will be equally necessary to inspect all gardens which were one-fourth, one half or three-fourths in bearing at the settlement; but which are now one half,

or three fourths in bearing or are fully planted as the case may be. Similarly if gardens which have gone out of bearing and are now 'occupied dry' are to be inspected, it will be equally necessary to inspect all gardens which may have gone out of bearing only to some extent for instance gardens which were fully planted at the settlement but which are now only three-fourths, one half or one-fourth in bearing. It is thus obvious that the work will involve (1) a general inspection and reclassification of all 'garden' lands and (2) inspection of all 'occupied dry' lands and reclassification of such of these lands as have been converted into 'garden'. The work involved in South Kanara will be much the same. The Board is strongly opposed to such a general inspection as the proposal implies and therefore considers that it is not desirable to carry out any changes in the classification of dry lands converted into 'garden' and vice versa at the ensuing resettlements of the two districts.

4. The Board would add that if there were any likelihood of evolving a really satisfactory method of garden classification — a classification to which at future resettlements a percentage enhancement or reduction could be applied without giving rise to the many anomalies which are associated with the present system - it would be prepared to recommend such a method even though it involved a general reclassification. The past history of the subject, however, negatives the probability of discovering any such method and the Board has come to the conclusion that moderate percentage enhancement is the most suitable solution of a difficult problem.

5. The collection of the statistics suggested by the Special Settlement Officer will take much time and the work entailed by the proposed inspection and tabulation will be wasted if Government should decide on other than financial grounds that a reclassification is unnecessary. The Board therefore requests that it may be informed whether Government wish that the statistics referred to should be collected in order to enable them to arrive at a decision on the question of reclassification.

/draft proceedings in P.No. 980/27 5-5-28 (5)

Copy of O.M.No.2841 E/26-1 dated 25.6.27 to the Board of Revenue, L.A and S.

The Government have examined the question whether it is necessary to reclassify at resettlement existing garden lands and dry lands converted into wet or garden during the currency of the existing settlement in the Malabar District and they incline to the view that:-

(1) It is unnecessary to reclassify any existing garden land either by raising the existing class or by lowering it.

(2) There is no need to reclassify any garden land as occupied dry. as it will be sufficient to permit transfers from garden to occupied dry during the currency of the settlement on the lines on which a transfer from wet to dry is permitted in the East ~~Godaveri~~ Coast Districts.

(3) It is not necessary to reclassify any wet land as garden.

(4) The reclassification of occupied dry land as wet ought not to be difficult and should be done in all cases in which occupied dry land has been converted into wet land.

(5) All occupied dry land which has been converted into garden land should be reclassified as garden and with the object of effecting this change, information concerning the details of all occupied dry land which has been converted into garden land should be obtained by means of the register suggested by the S.S.O.No.IV Party, referred to in the opening para of the Board's reference quoted above.

2. Before passing final orders, however, the Government wish to ascertain the views of the Board and the S.S.O as to whether in the case of occupied dry land reclassified as garden it would suffice generally to charge on it at resettlement the garden rate next above the rate which the land now bears as dry land and if so whether in the case of occupied dry land on which annas 12 or annas 10 an acre is now charged an exception should be made by classing it with occupied dry land on which rupee one is now paid with the result that on reclassification as garden the garden rate corresponding to th e present garden rate of rupees two an acre would be payable on it. The Board of Revenue is requested to obtain the remarks of the S.S.O. on this proposal and to submit them with its own remarks and if necessary alternative proposals to the Government at a very early date.

Revenue Department

D. L.No.2149 E/27-1 dated 4-8-27

Settlement-Resettlement-(South Kan
Classification of lands-Alteration at
Resettlements- Board's Reference No.
F.735/26-5 dated 23-10-26.

The Board of Revenue is reques
ted to examine the question of recla-
ssifying at resettlement ~~existing gard~~
~~lands and~~ dry lands converted into wet
or garden during the currency of the
existing settlement in the South
Kanara District on the lines of the
remarks relating to
~~instructions issued for~~ the Malabar
District in Memo No.× 2341 E/26-1 datec
25-6-27 & to ~~The Board is requested to~~ sul
-it a separate report on the questin
~~its~~ relating to the South
Kanara District. ~~separately~~.

28.7.27

× (~~Enclosed~~ copy attached)

To the Board of Revenue (L.R. .S.)

DESPATCHED
2/8/27

28/7/27

2449 E/27 - Fwd.

C F. 91

Revenue - **DEPARTMENT.**

CURRENT No. 3629-

Received 26.11.27 192 Registered 24.1 1927.

Subject.

Settlement - Resettlement - (South Kanara)

classification of lands - Alteration -

ENCLOSURES
No.
Spare copies

Reference-F-No.8390/27.1,

Station Madras, *Dated the* 25th November 1927.

From

The Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement, ~~Revenue Settlement, etc.~~ ~~Separate Revenue~~

H.G.Stokes Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement.

Resolution

Reference. Read the following papers:-

Letter from A.R.MacEwen Esquire, M.C., I.C.S., Special Settlement Officer, Party No.IV, Cannanore, C.No.366/B & C/27, dated the 4th October 1927.

Board's Reference No.F.735/26.9, dated 6-8-1927.

In its reference quoted above the Board has ordered me, in compliance with the Government Memorandum forwarded in that reference, to report on the question of the reclassification, at the forthcoming re-settlement, of lands classed as wet, garden and dry at the last settlement of South Kanara.

2. It does not seem necessary at this stage to recapitulate at any length the facts of the problem of re-classification

dealt with in 980 55-24

re-classification, which, as far as the general factors are concerned, are identical with those already dealt in the papers on the same subject for Malabar District. At the last settlement of both districts, the Government reserved to themselves the right to make such changes as seemed necessary in the classification, as such of wet, dry and garden lands, and the right was formally notified and a clause to that effect was included, by the orders of Government, in Boards Standing Order I(4). In the case of Malabar, it was decided (paragraph 2 of Board's Reference No.F.735/26.3, dated the 21st May 1926) that the best course was to find out, by an investigation of the present state of fields of each description in selected villages, to what extent fields of the various descriptions still correspond or fail to correspond to the description assigned to them at the last settlement. This was done, and I reported on the results of this enquiry in my No.112/B & C/26 dated the 23rd June 1927; the Government after examining the question, issued tentative proposals in their Memorandum No.2841 E/26.1, dated the 25th June 1927, and I offered my remarks on these proposals in my letter of the same number, dated the 9th July 1927. These two reports, with the remarks of the Collector of Malabar, are now before the Board. As the Collector of South Kanara is probably not acquainted with the results of the enquiry so far made in Malabar, and as the Malabar papers contain many consideration that will apply equally to both districts, I am furnishing him, along with this report, with copies of the pertinent portions of the Malabar papers for his information.

3. Since the receipt of the Board's Reference on the South Kanara question, I have taken such opportunities as were possible to investigate the present state of the ground in the district, and I have seen some of the Revenue Officers and asked for their views on the same subject. I think that it can fairly certainly be said, even prior to more detailed investigation of the district as a whole, that the changes between the various heads will not be as extensive as in Malabar. In South Kanara,

the extent of Government waste land available for occupation is relatively very large; the population appears to be less dense than in Malabar, at least in the non-coastal areas; and except for some areas in the interior where large areca-nut groves are found, there is not the same tendency as in Malabar to convert dry lands to gardens. Even on the coastal strip in the northern part of the district one does not find the unbroken belt of cocoanut topes that are found in Malabar from end to end of the district; and there is nothing corresponding to the tendency - found in Malabar to convert dry and even wet lands on a large - scale to gardens. These observations, however, are only tentative, and they require, I submit, confirmation by detailed - figures.

4. In the Government Memorandum which I am answering in this reference, the Government have asked for the investigation of the question in the light of the tentative proposals laid down in their Memorandum of 25th June 1927, referred to above. These proposals were issued after a conference at which the figures - collected during the inspection of selected villages in Malabar were examined, and I assume that these figures will have had some influence on the nature of the proposals of Government. In - South Kanara we have so far no detailed information at all as to the proportion of the occupied lands of the district which has - changed since the last settlement. I submit for the consideration of the Board that it is essential that in South Kanara too a close examination be made of selected villages. The figures collected for Malabar have proved, I submit, very useful; they have thrown light on the general problem, and they have given me sufficient material to answer the more detailed questions raised by Government in their intermediate references. The cost of the enquiry in Malabar was only, roughly, Rs.7,500/- a small outlay in comparison with the importance of the material collected; and it is not likely that the cost of a similar inspection in South Kanara would be any higher. I submit, therefore, that this preliminary work may be sanctioned at a very early date. If I am

permitted to carry it out, and if orders to that effect are received well before the end of the year, it can be completed by the end of May of next year, before the breaking of the monsoon.

II

Letter from E.H.Gawne Esquire, I.C.S., Collector of South Kanara, D.Dis.No.6443/27, dated the 27th October 1927.

Board's Reference No.F.735/26-9, dated 6th August 1927.

The Special Settlement Officer's report C.No.366/27/B & C, dated the 4th October 1927 is herewith submitted.

2. I agree that there must be some definite figures for the district before any decision can be arrived at and I therefore support the Special Settlement Officer's proposal to have a preliminary enquiry in a few selected villages.

3. I think, however, that a general reclassification which meant classing dry lands improved into garden at a higher rate would surely cause such a storm of opposition that it would probably not be effective in the end in attracting any more revenue than is now collected. Ever since I came to this district there have been constant protests both against the re-survey and the re-settlement. This is also one of the 'hardy annuals' in the Legislative Council.

-:-

REFERENCE.

Submitted to Government with reference to their Memorandum No.2149/E/27.1, dated the 1st August 1927.

2. The Board supports the Special Settlement Officer's suggestion and requests that Government will be pleased to sanction a preliminary enquiry in a few selected villages as proposed by him.

Assistant Secretary.

To

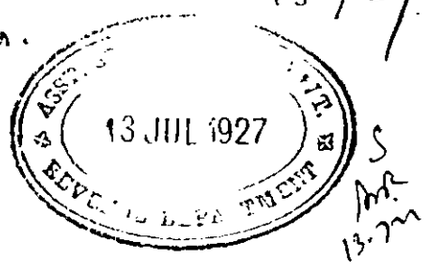
The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

C.N.N./25-11-1927.

Revenue Department

Settlement — Resettlement — (South Canara) — Classification of lan
— Alteration at resettlement.

M. give a copy Rv 2149E / 13.7.27.



To R. S.

In its Reference d. 28-10-1926, the Board raised the question of ~~ascertaining~~ certain accounts for the purpose of determining whether any changes are required in the

List of papers put up

G.O. 982, d. 9. 10. 1905.
G.O. 917, d. 9. 10. 1902
G.O. 757, d. 25-8-1902

10 — 3.

The following are extracts from the file cons. 2841 E/26 — ~~Revenue Department. Settlement — Resettlement — Malabar and South Kanara Districts — Classification of lands — Alteration at resettlement.~~

From the Board of Revenue, L.R. and S. No.F. 735-26-5, dated 28-10-1926.

Pp. 1-3 c.f.

Please see the Board's reference ~~in the~~ at pp. 1-3 c.f.

2. The questions raised in the file relate to the necessity for the reclassification at resettlement of dry lands converted into wet or garden in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara.

(not put up)

Para.20 of G.O.No.883 Rev., dated 29-8-00 passing orders on the settlement of Malabar states as follows:-

> "The settlement will be for a period of 30 years during which period no extra charge will be made on 'occupied dry' converted into 'wet' or 'garden' or on wet converted into 'garden'. Unoccupied land will be assessed under the proper head when cultivated or brought under occupation. At the end of the settlement period the Government reserves the right either to revert to the system of tree tax or to introduce such changes in the classification and assessment of 'dry', 'wet' or 'garden' as may then seem proper"

Was there any similar reservation in the case of S. Kanara? If not quote it verbatim please.

J.F.H.
31-1-27.

With reference to the order the Board of Revenue has considered the question and submitted proposals for the Malabar district. In doing so the Board has included the South Kanara district also.

D.D.W.27-1-27.

To see. Submitted. No.

S.K.
31-1-27.

[× so far as it applies to Malabar.]

Show the Board's proposterous view was not agreed to.

N.E.M.
20-6-27.

× The question was discussed at the Conference held on 28th May 1927 but no definite conclusion was reached. ~~A note showing the results of a test~~

4
46

~~inspection has been included in the note file.~~

It seems to be unnecessary to reclassify existing garden land. Reclassification with the object of raising the class would probably not be worth the time and labour involved. There is no need to reclassify with the object of lowering the class as Government may reasonably contend that if a garden has deteriorated it has deteriorated by the neglect of the owner resulting from his failure to manure regularly and replant as his trees went out of bearing.

I agree.
N.E.M.
20-6-27.

It does not seem to be worth-while to reclassify wet as garden.

I agree.
N.E.M.
20-6-27.

There is no need to reclassify garden as occupied by O.D. It will suffice to permit transfer from garden to O.D. during the currency of the settlement on the lines on which a transfer from wet to dry is permitted in the East coast districts.

agree.
N.E.M.
20-6-27.

The reclassification of O.D. as wet ought not to be difficult and should I think be made.

Yes.
N.E.M.
20-6-27.

There remains reclassification from occupied by O.D. to garden which is by far the most important item involved. It would perhaps suffice to ascertain by means of the register suggested in item b(1) at p.4 c.f., the O.D. land which has been converted into garden and to class it as garden and charge on it the garden rate next above the rate which it now bears as dry land. (Possibly dry at 12 and 10 annas might like dry at Re.1 become garden at Rs.2.)

For orders whether the Board should be asked to submit revised proposals on these lines.

J.F.H.
20-6-27.

As above I agree as to A but as to B, I should like first to hear what the Settlement Officer and the Board have to say to this proposal.

N.E.M.
20-6-27.

Agreed. T.E.M.20-6-27.

To U.S.

A draft O.M. to the Board of Revenue is submitted for approval. The decision at ~~pp.11-12~~ p. 4 above relates to the reclassification in the Malabar District. It is for consideration whether the Board may be asked to consider how far it can be made applicable to the South Kanara District also. Subject to approval a para has been added to the O.M. to this effect.

P.K.
21-6-27.

Yes J.F.H. 23-6-27

After issue of the O.M., the case of S. Kanara may be noted on. Please see note in the margin of p.1 n.f.

D.D.W.
22-6-27.

Draft for approval.

J.F.H.
23-6-27.

H.E.H.
23-6-27.

Copy at p. 5 c. f

(O.M. No. 2841 E/26-1, dt 25-6-27)

(27)

To W

Copy at Pp. 1-3 c. f.

In its Reference d. 28-10-1926 the Board raises the question of maintaining certain accounts for the purpose of determining whether any changes are required in the classification of lands at the ensuing resettlements of Malabar and S. Kanara

1. The question so far as it

applies to Malabar was discussed at a Conference on 28-5-1927. Certain proposals were then formulated and they have been sent to the Board for remarks - vide memo at p. 5 c.f.

3. Concerning South Kanara, the Secy. asked whether in the case of this district there was a reservation at the settlement similar to the reservation [illegible] at the end of the settlement in the case of Malabar of the right either "to revert to the system of tree-tax or to introduce such changes in the classification and assessment of "dry", "wet" or "garden" as may then seem proper." The actual terms of the reservation in the case of Malabar are quoted at p. 3 supra.

Margin: at p. 3 supra

11. observed that in para 20 of the settlement notification for South Kanara, a similar reservation was made for S. Kanara also. The following are the exact terms of the reservation:

"The settlement will be for a period of 30 years, during which

Ref. G.O. 912 - G. 9.10.07 (Received by Revenue)

arise no extra charge will be made on
by converting into "wet or garden" or
— wet converted into garden or on
single crop wet land converted into
double" crop wet. Unoccupied land may
be assessed according to the existing
classification when cultivated or brought
under occupation. At the ends of the
settlement period, the Govt reserve the
right to introduce such changes in the
classification and assessment of "
"dry" and "garden" lands as may
seem proper. The Govt also reserve
right of revising the assessment du
the period of the settlement in th
case of town-side lands covered
agricultural patta".

4. Orders are requested whether
Board of Revenue may be pleased
enunciate the case of the S. rayats
also on the lines of the instruction
issued for the Malabar district in
G. O. M. at p. 5 c.

ASR
21.7.27

MMV 25.7.27

S
Draft in three lines

JCO

To undersecy

A draft G.M. is submitted.

for approval

28/7/27

DC.
28/7/27

18

Circ. 29.7.27.

Issue

30.7.27

G.M. 2149 E/27-1 of 1.8.27 - to BOR/Rev. pp.7. cf.

Reply from Board - Refer F.8390-27-4 of 28/11/27 - pp.9-12 cf.

Please see Board's reply pages 9-12 C.F.

the reasons given on pages 9-11 C.F. the S.S.O. (Macowen) is of opinion that it is necessary to a close examination made of selected villages to get detailed information as to the proportion occupied lands which have changed since the last settlement.

The Collector and the Board of Rev. support the S.S.O.'s proposal to have a preliminary enquiry in a few selected villages. The Govt. may agree.

7.12.27

S

C. 11/12/27 Draft.

To. Eo.

Draft is submitted.

May be sent to Fin. for acceptance

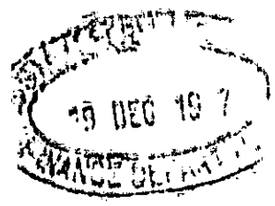
MMV 16.12.27

Lee
13.12.27
14/12/27

Ref. Eo. 2449 E/27-1
dt. 11.12.27

To Finance

17th



Financial Asst

44000

Submitted that the draft order may be accepted in this dept.

[The cost of preliminary enquiry in a few villages will not be included in the figure of Rs. 07 lakhs — see portion K on page 11 CF. Rs. 7 lakhs are met from one provision in one budget for settlement parties.]

21.12.27

22.12.27

VSh
22.12.27.

22.12.27

Rev

Fin. No. 44000 Estb-1
22.12.27

Rev. Dept.

Rev 36 E

To U.S.

MP 4.1.28

4/1/1928

Submitted that the draft order may issue

MMV 5.1.28

Issue
5.1.28

Cl. dk. & note ordered.
4/1/28

4/1/1928.

Sectt. 11-5 (a)—40,906—9-11-26 (6)

	Date.	Initials.
When received for Fair-copying.	22/6/28	
When copied ..		
When examined ..		
When signed ..	23/6/28	
When despatched ..		

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

READ AGAIN G.O. No ....., dated ..... 192 .

" " " " ..... " ..... 192 .

READ ALSO:—

C. No ..... From the To The Board of Rev. L.R. & Sett. No. 2149-E-27-1, dated 1-8- 1927.

2 C.F. " 3629-E-27 From the -do- Ref.F.8390-27-1 " 25-11- 1927.

" " ..... " " ..... " ..... " ..... 192 .

ORDER.

No. 33, dated 6/1/1928.

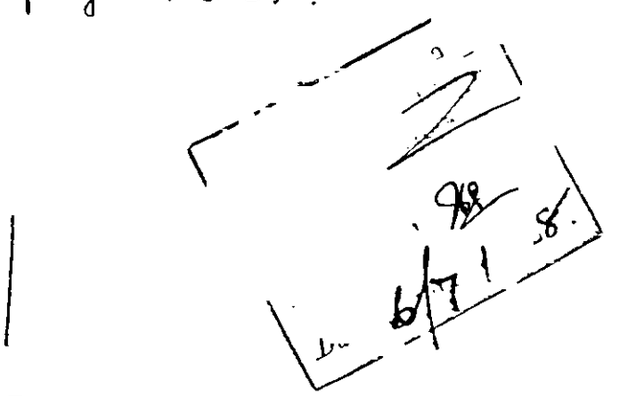
Mis.

page 7 C.F.

In O.M. N. 2149-E-27-1 dated 1-8-27 the Board of Revenue was requested to examine the question of re-classifying at resettlement dry lands converted into wet or garden during the existing settlement of the South Kanara District. The Special Settlement Officer is of op nion that, before proposals can be formulated, it is necessary to have a close examination made of the selected villages and to obtain detailed information as to the proportion of the occupied lands on

which the method of cultivation has changed since the last settlement. The S.S.O.'s proposal has been supported by the Collector and the Board of Revenue. The Government accept the proposals and direct that a preliminary inquiry should be made in a few selected villages.

page 12 C.F.



To the Board of Rev. L.R. & Sett.